

**HAMILTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 23, 2008**

Call to Order:

Upon notice duly given, Chairperson Eddington called to order a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hamilton County Election Commission at 8:00 a.m. on June 23, 2008 at the office of the Hamilton County Election Commission, 700 River Terminal Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Moment of Silence:

Pledge of Allegiance: Charlotte Polk

Present at Meeting:

Chairperson Eddington, Commissioner's Bennett, Polk, and Rowe were present at the meeting. Attorney Jerry Summers, and the staff of the Election Commission as well as members of the community and media. Commissioner Walden was out of town.

Minutes:

Commissioner Rowe made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings of February 19, 2008. Commissioner Polk seconded. They were unanimously approved.

New Business:

J B Bennett took his oath of office as a commissioner. **SEE ATTACHED**

Charlotte Polk made a motion to appoint JB Bennett as secretary of the commission.

Commissioner Rowe seconded.

Attorney Summers further stated that since we are awaiting an opinion from Randy Nelson, that we table this until the next meeting.

Commissioner Rowe made a motion to table the discussion until the next meeting. Commissioner Polk seconded.

Charlotte Mullis stated that we have 875 Election Day workers and that they needed to be approved so we can get their letters out.

Secretary Bennett made a motion to approve. Commissioner Rowe seconded.

Chairperson Eddington Asked if everyone had a chance to review the budget.

Charlotte Mullis stated that this is the budget that Administrator Knowles had presented to the County Commission. She further stated that they took off \$200,000.00 from it and they are to present it again before the commission on Thursday June 26, 2008. Charlotte also stated that our budget now is instead of two million, is one million eight hundred thousand, and that we would just have to do the best we can with that.

Commissioner Rowe asked that if the budget was adopted, where do you see the greatest pressure being applied?

Charlotte Mullis stated that mainly the city election in March and April of next year. In 2005 their March election was 99 something and their run off was 90 something so that's where the largest part is and then the November Presidential election. That is why the budget was up so. If Administrator Knowles sees in Nov, Dec, or the first of the year that it is going to be way under, he can go back and they can amend the budget.

Commissioner Rowe stated that the day to day operating unit here would not be significantly impacted by this budget. Charlotte Mullis stated that no we are hoping not , and we can always go back and have it amended.

Chairperson Eddington asked that we back up a minute, due to the fact that when they were talking about the early voting times, they did not mention locations.

Charlotte Mullis stated that the locations would be the same. Here at the Election Commission, Northgate Mall next to TJ Maxx, and Brainerd Rec. Center.

Secretary Bennett made a motion to accept and Commissioner Rowe seconded.

Legal Matters:

Attorney Summers stated that there has been a question of residence for Rob Healy, candidate for City Of Chattanooga Mayor 2009. Attorney Summers handed out a letter from Rob Healy and one from Brook Thompson, Coordinator of Elections.

SEE ATTACHED

Attorney Summers further stated that he wanted to make the commission aware of a matter. He passed out a copy of an article re: Voter ID Challenge.

SEE ATTACHED

Attorney Summers asked about Basil Marceaux, Sr. since he was on the Agenda, Charlotte Mullis stated that he asked to be on the agenda, but that he did not attend.

Marti Rutherford information I had accumulated, I sent to General Cox back in Feb., and asked that they provide us with any information they had. General Cox sent the information to the grand jury and they declined to indict Mrs. Rutherford. We did our job and handed it off like we were supposed to.

Adjournment: Chairperson Eddington stated that if there were no further matters, this meeting stands adjourned.

Next Meeting:

There was no meeting scheduled at this time.

Approved:

JB Bennett, Secretary

Dorothy Eddington Chairperson

Sharlotte Polk Commissioner

Joe Rowe Commissioner

Michael S. Walden Commissioner